

Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /066 W

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R 152033Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3595

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 2155

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN, BR

SUBJ: HIGH-LEVEL PANAMANIAN MISSION TO VISIT BRAZIL

1. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS CONFIRMED THAT A SPECIAL PANAMANIAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION HEADED BY VICE PRESIDENT ARTURO SUCRE AND FOREIGN MINISTER JUAN ANTONIO TACK, WILL TRAVEL TO BRAZIL APRIL 16 FOR TALKS WITH SENIOR BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO STATEMENTS TO PRESS BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO INFORM BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES ON THE CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS AND TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S CANDIDACY FOR A UN SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT.

2. AT A LATER TIME, NOT YET DETERMINED, THE SPECIAL MISSION WILL REPORTEDLY VISIT SEVERAL OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. THE BRAZIL TRIP, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, WILL LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS.

3. COMMENT: SUCH A MISSION BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS LONG BEEN RUMORED. FOLLOWING UP ON MARCH 22-24 QUADRIPARTITE MINI-SUMMIT MEETING IN PANAMA OF COLOMBIAN, VENEZUELAN AND COSTA RICAN CHIEFS OF GOVERNMENT, THE VISITS ARE PART OF GOP'S STRATEGY OF MAXIMIZING VISIBLE LATIN SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S CANAL

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POSITION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1975
DecapTION Date: 01 JAN 1960
DecapTION Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PANAMA02155
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750132-0320
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750448/aaaabszl.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <01 DEC 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIGH-LEVEL PANAMANIAN MISSION TO VISIT BRAZIL
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PN, BR, UNSC, (SUCRE, ARTURO), (TACK, JUAN ANTONIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006